

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Claims 2, 5-7 and 9-13 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 14-15, 17-21, 23-27, 29-30, 32-35 and 37 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 3-4, 8, 16, 22, 28, 31 and 36 were previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

At pages 1 and 9 of the Action, claim 12 is allowed. Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for his allowance of Claim 12. Claims 2, 5-6, 9-11 and 13 are amended to depend from allowed claim 12. Claim 7 depends from claim 6. Therefore all of the pending claims 2, 5-6 and 9-13 are allowed or allowable.

At page 1 of the Action, the proposed drawing corrections are approved and formal drawings are required. The sheets of formal drawings incorporating the approved corrections and marked "replacement sheet" are filed herewith.

Claims 17, 29, 30, 32 and 33 are objected to because of informalities. All of these claims are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is requested.

Claims 1, 2, 14, 15, 17-21, 23-27, 29, 30, 32, 33, 35 and 37-39 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Erreygers U.S. Patent 6,236,664. Claims 1, 14, 15, 17-21, 23-27, 29, 30, 32, 33, 35 and 37-39 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 2 is amended to depend from allowed claim 12. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Claims 5 and 34 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Erreygers in view of Conroy et al. U.S. Patent 6,459,684. Claim 34 is canceled without prejudice or

disclaimer. Claim 5 is amended to depend from allowed claim 12. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

It is noted that a Change of Correspondence Address (to Customer ID 38396) was filed in this application by facsimile on July 7, 2004 together with an Election and Power of Attorney and a transmittal page. This application is recited at the fourth line of page two of the Election and Power of Attorney. Copies of these papers are filed herewith.

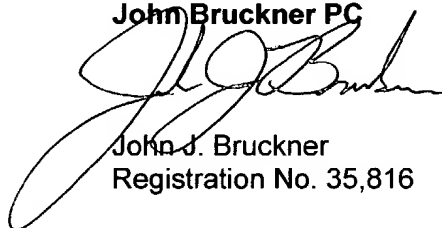
Other than as explicitly set forth above, this reply does not include acquiescence to statements by the Examiner. In view of the above, all the claims are considered patentable and allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned (at direct line 512-694-9145) for prompt action in the event any issues remain.

No fee is due for filing this Reply because it is being filed within the shortened statutory period for response as set in the Office Action dated May 13, 2004.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-3204 of John Bruckner PC.

Respectfully submitted,

John Bruckner PC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John J. Bruckner', is written over the printed name and registration number.

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